

04-881 LOCKHART V. UNITED STATES, ET AL.

DECISION BELOW: 376 F.3d 1027 (9th Cir. 2004)

QUESTION PRESENTED

Do the Social Security Act and the Debt Collection Improvement Act bar the United States from withholding social security benefits to collect student loan debt that has been outstanding for more than ten years, as the Eighth Circuit has held, or does the Higher Education Act eliminate any such bar, as the Ninth Circuit held below?

Cert. Granted 4/25/05